East India Company (English)

A TRUE RELATION OF THE UNJUST, CRUELL, AND Barbarous Proceedings against the ENGLISH AT AMBOYNA:

In the *EAST-INDIES*, by the *Neatherlandish* GOVENOUR, and COUNCIL there.

The Third Edition.

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Amboyna's Bloody Cruelty being ſuch,
That none unleſs the *Devil*, or the *Dutch*
Durſt either ask, or think on, here we do
Preſent (Kind Reader) to thy Chriſtian view !
The two unruly Elements diſplay,
The *Dutch* are found more mercileſs then they ;
Both Fire and Water taught by them begin,
To ſwell the Body, and to ſcorch the Skin ;
And both ſeem buſie, rather then relent,
T' out-wit each other, who ſhould moſt Torment :
No Malice wants, No Pain is free ; the Cord
Comes in to Help, and acteth with the Sword ;
Whiles All, to aid the Innocent Blood, Comply
To cry more loud for Vengeance to the Sky.

TO THE

READER.

GEntle Reader, Thou mayest (perhaps) wonder why this Relation of the busineß of Amboyna, *so many Years since taken upon the Oath; and Depositions of our People that came thence, and presented to His then Majesty,* King James *of blessed memory, and the Lords of His Privy Council, cometh now again to the Preß. The truth is, the* English East-India *Company have ever been very tender of the Antient Amity, and good Correspondence held between this Realm and the* Neatherlands, *and have been very loath, by divulging of the private Injuries done them by the* Neatherlands East-India *Company, to give the least occasion of any distast or disaffection, which might happily grow between these Two Nations, for the sake, and on the behalf of the Two Companies respectively. For which cause, although the Wrongs and Injuries, or rather Contumelies done unto the* English *by the* Dutch *in the* Indies, *have been as intollerable as manifold; as to say nothing of those great heaps of them buried in the* Amnesty *of the Treaty of the Year,* 1619. *and only to point at the General Heads of those committed since that Treaty, and grossely contrary to the maine intent, and expresse Words and Disposition of the same: First, in the point of Hostility; the Invasion of the Islands of* Lantore *and* Polaroone, *then and before in the quiet possession of the* English, *in the Name of the Crown of* England; *The taking of the same Islands by force; the Razing and Demolishing of the* English *Fort; The binding of the* English *(that had not so much as resisted*

 them)

them) to stakes with ropes about their necks, throtling them with the same, and flourishing their naked swords about them, as if they would presently have dispatched them; then taking them so amazed and bound, and tumbling down the Rocks; and after, carrying their crushed and bruised Carcasses away in Irons: Secondly, in the point of their Usurped Sovereignty; their taking upon them the Conusance of controversies between the English *and the* Indians, *for matters passed far without the Compass of the* Netherlands *pretended Jurisdiction, and Executing their Sentences thereupon by plain force; seizing of the* English *Companies Goods, Fining, Imprisoning, Stocking, yea, Whipping our people at a post in the open Market-place, and after, washing them with Vinegar and Salt: Thirdly, in point of partnership with the* English, *their putting great summs to the common account, which were disbursed to the private and sole behoof of the* Dutch; *giving great presents for the Glory of the* Dutch, *without consent of the* English, *and making War for the Enlargement of their own Dominion, yet bringing the Charge to the Common Account; together with infinite other the like, the particulars whereof would arise to a just and ample Volume: Nevertheless, the* English *Company from time to time contented themselves with Informing His Majesty, and His Honourable Privy Council with their Grievances privately in Writing, to the end, that necessary Relief and Reparation might be obtained, without Publishing any thing to the World in Print, thereby to stir up or breed ill blood between these Nations, which are otherwise tied in so many Reciprocal Obligations. And the same course they have hitherto holden also in this crying businesse of* Amboyna; *onely offering to the* Manes *of their murthered Countrey-men, Factors and Kinsfolks, their Effectual Endeavours in a Dutifull course unto His Majesty for Justice for their innocent blood, and Reparation of the Honour of the Nation herein Interessed. In which their wonted way they were so constant, that they could not be driven out of the same by the contrary course of some of the other party; that not glutted nor mollified with the blood of these Innocents, nor with all the other sufferings of the* English *in the* Indies, *published a Pamphlet in print in the* Neatherlands *Language, not onely in Justification of this Barbarous Butchery, but withall in disgrace of the* English *Nation, and the Lawes and Justice of the same. But behold now further, the same Pamphlet, being called in by an Edict of the States General, was yet afterwards Translated, and Printed in* English, *and dispersed even in this Realm it self, to Brave and Disgrace us at our own Doors, and in our own Language. This, no* English *patience can bear: The Blood of the Innocent cryes out against it: The Honour of the Nation suffereth in it. Wherefore the* English East-India *Company*

pany is hereby inforced, contrary to their Desire and Custome, to have recourse also to the Press, to maintaine the Reputation of those their Country-Men and Servants, that lost their lives unjustly; and to acquaint the World with the naked truth of this Cause, hitherto masked, muffled, and obscured in a fog of Factions, Concealments, and crafty Conveyances of the Authour of this Pamphlet, and his Clients, the Governour and Council (so termed) of Amboyna.

Having thus Acquainted thee, Gentle Reader, with the Reasons why this businesse was no sooner published in print, it remaineth yet further, that thou be satisfied in an Objection or two more, which common reason will suggest unto thee. Without doubt, reading this Discourse, and being a true Patriot of thine own Country, and a Well-willer of the Neatherlands *(as we presume and wish thee to be,) thou wilt wonder how it cometh to passe, that our Nation, which hath not been wont to receive such Disgraces, should now be so weak and unprovided in the* Indies, *as to suffer such Indignities, and to be so grosly Over-topped, Out-raged and Vilified there? As also thou wilt no lesse admire, that any of the* Neatherlands *Nation, which hath received such, and so many Favours, and Supports from hence, and held so Good and Antient Correspondence with our Nation, should now offer and commit such Odious Contumelies on* English *Men, their Partners and Allies by special Treaty. Herein thou wilt soon Answer thy self, if thou but consider the different end and Design of the* English *and* Dutch *Companies Trading in the* Indies, *appearing by their several course and practise respectively. The* English *being Subjects of a peaceable Prince, that hath Enough of His Own, and is therewith content, without affecting of new Acquests; have aimed at nothing in their* East-India *Trade, but a Lawfull and Competent Gain by Commerce and Traffique with the people of those parts. And although they have in some places builded Forts, and setled some Strength, yet that hath not been done by force or violence, against the good will of the Magistrates, or people of the Countrey; but with their Desire, Consent, and good Liking, for the security onely of the Trade, and upon the said Magistrate, and Peoples voluntary yielding themselves under the Obedience and Sovereignty of the Crown of* England; *their own Antient Lawes, Customes and Priviledges, neverthelesse reserved. Further, the same* English *had undoubted Confidence in the* Neatherlands *Nation there also Trading, especially being lately conjoyned with them in the strict Alliance, and social Confederacy of the year,* 1619. *and therefore attended nothing from them, but the Offices of good Affection and Partnership. Upon these Grounds, the* English *Company made their Equipages answerable onely to a course of Commerce, and Peaceable Traffique: not*

expecting any Hostility either from the Indians, or especially from the Dutch: *on the other side, the* Neatherlanders, *from the beginning of their Trade in the* Indies, *not contented with the ordinary course of a fair and free Commerce, invaded divers Islands, took some Forts, built Others, and laboured nothing more, than the Conquests of Countries, and the Acquiring of New Dominion: By which reason, as they were accordingly provided of Shipping,* Souldiers *and all Warlike provision; as also of places of Rendezvouz upon the shore, and thereby Enabled to wrong the* English *as well as others: so the Cost and Charges of their Shipping,* Forts, *and Souldiers, employed upon these Designs, rose to such an height, as was not to be maintained by the Trade they had in those parts. Wherefore, for a supply, they were forced (as some of their own Countrey-men and Adventurers in their Company affirm) to fish with dry Nets, that is to say, to pick quarrels with the* Indians, *and so to take their Ships, and make Prize of their Goods. Which yet not answering their Charge and Adventure, they proceeded also to quarrel with the* English, *to debar them of Trade to free places; and for attempting such Trade, to take their Ships and Goods. Touching which, when a good Order was set by the said Treaty of the year,* 1619. *yet they saw, they could not make their Reckoning to any purpose, unless they utterly drave the* English *out of the Trade of those parts; thereby to have the whole and sole Traffique of the Commodities of the* Indies *in these parts of* Europe, *in their own hands; and so to make the price at their pleasure, sufficient to maintain and promote their Conquests, and withall to yield them an ample benefit of their Trading. Which unlesse they can, by this and the like worrying and wearying of the* English *bring to pass, it is easie to be judged by those that understand any thing of the course and state of the Trade of those parts, that albeit their returns hereafter should prove as great continually, as of late extraordinarily they have happened to be, yet the main* Stock *and Estate of the Company must needs abate and decay by some Hundred Thousand Pounds yearly.*

A True

A TRUE RELATION

Of the late Vnjuſt, Cruel, and Barbarous Proceedings againſt the *ENGLISH* at *AMBOYNA* in the *EAST-INDIES*, by the *NEATHERLANDERS* there, upon a forged pretenſe of a Conſpiracy of the ſaid *ENGLISH.*

AFter the fruitleſs iſſue of two ſeveral Treaties: The firſt, *Anno* 1613. in *London*; and the other, *Anno* 1615. at the *Hague* in *Holland*, touching the differences between the *Engliſh* and *Dutch* in the *Eaſt-Indies*; at laſt by a third Treaty, *Anno* 1619. in *London*, there was a full and ſolemn Compoſition made of all the ſaid differences, and a fair order ſet for the future proceeding of the Suppoſts of both Companies in the *Indies*, as well in the courſe of their Trade and Commerce, as otherwiſe. Amongſt ſundry other points, it was agreed, That in regard of the great blood-ſhed and coſt, pretended to be beſtowed by the *Hollanders*, in win-

ning of the Trade of the Isles of the *Mollucco's*, *Banda*, and *Amboyna*, from the *Spaniards* and *Portugals*, and in building of Forts for the continual securing of the same, the said *Hollanders* therefore should Enjoy two third parts of that Trade, and the *English* the other third; and the Charge of the Forts to be maintained by Taxes and Impositions, to be levied upon the Merchandize. Wherefore in consequence of this Agreement, the *English East-India* Company planted certaine Factories for their share of this Trade; some at the *Mollucco's*, some at *Banda*, and some at *Amboyna*. Of the two former of these, there will be, at this present small occasion to speak further; But the last will prove the Scene of a sad Tragedy.

This *Amboyna* is an Island lying near *Seran*, of the circuit of forty Leagues, and giveth Name also to some other small Islands adjacent. It beareth Cloves; for gathering and buying in whereof the *English* Company for their part had planted five several Factories; The Head and Rendevouze of all, at the Town of *Amboyna*; and therein, first Master *George Muschamp*, and afterward Master *Gabriel Towerson*, their Agents with Directions over the smaller Factories at *Hitto*, and *Larica* upon the same Island, and at *Lobo*, and *Cambello*, upon a point of their Neighbouring Island of *Seran*.

Upon these Islands of *Amboyna*, and the point of *Seran*, the *Hollanders* have four Forts, the Chief of all is at the said Town of *Amboyna*, and is very strong, having four Points or Bullwarks with their Curtains, and upon each of these Points six Great Pieces of Ordnance mounted, most of them of Brass. The one side of this Castle is washed by the Sea, and the other is divided from the Land with a Ditch of four or five fathom broad, very deep, and ever filled with the Sea. The Garrison of this Castle consisteth of about Two Hundred *Dutch* Souldiers, and a Company of Free Burgers.

Besides these, there is alwayes a matter of Three or Four Hundred *Mardikers* (for so they usually call the Free Natives) in the Town, ready to serve the Castle at an hours warning. There lye also in the road (for the most part) divers good ships of the *Hollanders*, as well for the guard of the place by Sea, as for the occasions of Traffique: This being the chief Randevouz, as well for the Island of *Banda*, as for the rest of *Amboyna*. Here the *English* lived; not in the Castle, but under protection thereof, in a House of their own in the Town; holding themselves safe, as well in respect of the ancient Bonds of amity between both Nations, as of the strict conjunction made by the late Treaty before mentioned.

They continued here some two years, Conversing and Trading together with the *Hollanders*, by virtue of the said Treaty. In which time there fell out sundry differences and debates between them: The *English* complaining that the *Hollanders* did not only lavish away much money in building, and unnecessary expences, upon the Forts and otherwise, and bring large and unreasonable reckonings thereof to the common account; But also did, for their part, pay the Garrisons with victuals and cloath of *Coromondell*, which they put off to the Souldiers at three or four times the value it cost them, yet would not allow of the *English* Companies part of the same charge, but only in ready money; thereby drawing from the *English* (which ought to pay but one third part) more than two thirds of the whole true charge. Hereupon, and upon the like occasions, grew some discontents and disputes, and the complaints were sent to *Jaccatra*, in the Island of *Java Major*, to the Councel of defence of both Nations there residing: who also, not agreeing upon the points in difference, sent the same hither over into *Europe*, to be decided by both Companies here; or, in default of their agreement, by the Kings Majesty, and the Lords the States General; according to an Article of the Treaty of the year, 1619. on this behalf. In the

the mean time the discontent between the *English* and the *Dutch*, about these and other differences, continued, and daily encreased, untill at last there was a sword found, to cut in sunder that knot at once, which the tedious disputes of *Amboyna* and *Jaccatra* could not untie. And this was used in manner as followeth.

About the Eleventh of *February*, 1622. *Stilo veteri*, a *Japoner* Souldier of the *Dutch* in their Castle of *Amboyna*, walking in the night upon the wall, came to the Sentinel (being a *Hollander*,) and there, amongst other talk, asked him some questions touching the strength of the Castle, and the people that were therein. It is here to be noted, that those *Japoners* (of whom there is not thirty in all the Island) did, for the most part, serve the *Dutch* as Souldiers, yet were not of their trusty bands alwayes lodged in the Castle, but upon occasion called out of the Town to assist in the Watch. This *Japoner* aforesaid, was for his said conference with the Sentinel apprehended upon suspition of Treason, and put to the Torture. Thereby (as some of the *Dutch* affirmed) he was brought to confess himself, and sundry others of his Country-men there, to have contrived the taking of the Castle. Hereupon, other *Japoners* were Examined and Tortured, as also a *Portugal*, the Guardian of the Slaves under the *Dutch*. During this Examination, which continued three or four dayes; some of the *English-men* went to and from the Castle upon their business, saw the Prisoners, heard of their Tortures, and of the Crime laid to their Charge; But all this while suspected not, that this matter did any whit concern themselves, having never had any conversation with the *Japoners*, nor with the *Portugal* aforesaid.

At the same time there was one *Abel Price*, Chyrurgion of the *English*, prisoner in the Castle, for offering in his drunkenness to set a *Dutch* mans House on fire. This Fellow the *Dutch* took, and shewed him some of the *Japoners*, whom they

had

had first most grievously tortured, and told him, they had confessed the *English* to have been of their Confederacy for the taking of the Castle, and that if he would not confess the same, they would use him even as they had done those *Japoners*, and worse also. Having given him the Torture, they soon made him confesse what ever they asked him. This was the Fifteenth of *February*, 1622. *Stilo veteri*. Forthwith, about nine of the clock the same morning, they sent for Captain *Towerson*, and the rest of the *English* that were in the Town to come to speak with the Governour in the Castle.: They all went, save one that was left to keep the House. Being come to the Governour, he told Captain *Towerson*, that himself, and others of his Nation were accused of a Conspiracy to surprize the Castle, and therefore, untill further Tryal, were to remain prisoners. Instantly also they attached him that was left at home in the house, took the Merchandize of the *English* Company there into their own custody by Inventory, and seized all the Chests, Boxes, Books, Writings, and other things in the *English* House. Captain *Towerson* was committed to his Chamber with a Guard of *Dutch* Souldiers. *Emanuel Tomson* was kept prisoner in the Castle; the rest, (*viz.*) *John Beomont*, *Edward Collins*, *William Webber*, *Ephraim Ramsey*, *Timothy Johnson*, *John Fardo*, and *Robert Brown* were sent aboard the *Hollanders* Ships then riding in the Harbour, some to one Ship, and some to another, and all made fast in Irons. The same day also the Governour sent to the two other Factories in the same Island, to apprehend the rest of the *English* there. So that *Samuel Colson*, *John Clark*, *George Sharrock*, that were found in the Factory at *Hitto*, and *Edward Collins*, *William Webber*, and *John Sadler*, at *Larica*, were all brought prisoners to *Amboyna*, the sixteenth of *February*. Upon which day also *John Powl*, *John Wetheral*, and *Thomas Ladbrook*, were apprehended at *Cambello*, and *John Beomont*, *William Grigs*, and *Ephraim Ramsey*, at *Lobo*, and brought in Irons to *Amboyna* the twentieth of the same

 moneth.

moneth. In the mean time, the Governour and Fiscal went to work with the prisoners that were already there: And first, they sent for *John Beomont*, and *Timothy Johnson*, from aboard the *Unicorn*; who being come into the Castle, *Beomont* was left with a Guard in the Hall, and *Johnson* was taken into another room. Where, by and by, *Beomont* heard him cry out very pittifully; then to be quiet for a little while, and then loud again. After tast of the Torture, *Abel Price* the Chyrurgion, that was first Examined and Tortured (as is above remembred) was brought in to confront and accuse him: But *Johnson* not yet confessing any thing, *Price* was quickly carried out, and *Johnson* brought again to the Torture; where *Beomont* heard him some times cry aloud, then quiet again, then roar afresh: At last, after he had been about an hour in this second Examination, he was brought forth wailing and lamenting, all wet, and cruelly burnt in divers parts of his body, and so laid aside in a by-place of the Hall, with a Souldier to watch him that he should speak with no body.

Then was *Emanuel Tomson* brought to Examination; not in the room where *Johnson* had been, but in another, something farther from the Hall. Yet *Beomont* being in the Hall, heard him roar most lamentably, and many times. At last, after an hour and an half spent in Torturing him, he was carried away into another Room another way, so that he came not by *Beomont* through the Hall. Next, was *Beomont* called in, and being demanded many things, all which he denied with deep Oaths and Protestations, was made fast to be Tortured, a cloath tied about his Neck, and two men ready with their Jarres of water to be poured on his Head. But yet for this time the Governour bad loose him, he would spare him a day or two, because he was an Old Man. This was all Saturdays work, the fifteenth of *February* aforesaid.

Upon Sunday the sixteenth of *February*, *William Webber*, *Edward Collins*, *Ephraim Ramsey*, and *Robert Brown* were fetcht from aboard

aboard the *Rotterdam*, to be Examined. At the ſame time came *Samuel Colſon*, *William Grigs*, and *John Clark*, *George Sharrock*, and *John Sadler*, from *Hitto* and *Larica*, and were immediately, upon their Arrival, brought into the Caſtle Hall.

Robert Brown Tailor was firſt called in; and being Tormented with water, confeſſed all in order as the Fiſcal aſked him.

Then was *Edward Collins* called in, and told, that thoſe that were formerly Examined, had confeſt him as acceſſary to the Plot of taking the Caſtle. Which when he denied with great Oaths and Execrations, they made his Hands and Feet faſt to the Rack, bound a cloath about his throat, ready to be put to the Torture of Water. Thus prepared, he prayed to be reſpited, and he would confeſſe all. Being let down, he again vowed and proteſted his innocency; yet ſaid, that becauſe he knew that they would by Torture make him confeſs any thing, though never ſo falſe, they ſhould do him a great favour, to tell him what they would have him ſay, and he would ſpeak it, to avoid the Torture. The Fiſcal hereupon ſaid; What, do you mock us? and bad, Up with him again; and ſo gave him the Torment of Water: which he not able long to endure, prayed to be let down again to his Confeſſion. Then he deviſed a little with himſelf, and told them, That about two moneths and a half before, Himſelf, *Tomſon*, *Iohnſon*, *Brown*, and *Fardo*, had Plotted, with the help of the *Iaponers*, to ſurpriſe the Caſtle. Here he was interrupted by the Fiſcal, and aſked whether Captain *Towerſon* were not of that Conſpiracy. He anſwered, No. You lye, ſaid the Fiſcal; Did not he call you all to him, and tell you, That thoſe daily Abuſes of the *Dutch* had cauſed him to think of a Plot, and that he wanted nothing but your Conſent and Secrecy? Then ſaid a *Dutch* Merchant, one *John Iooſt* that ſtood by, Did not you all ſwear upon a Bible to be ſecret to him? *Collins* Anſwered with great Oaths, That he knew nothing of any ſuch matter. Then they bad make him faſt again: whereupon he then ſaid,

All

All was true that they had ſpoken. Then the Fiſcal aſked him whether the *Engliſh* in the reſt of the Factories, were not conſenting to this Plot. He Anſwered, No. The Fiſcal then aſked him, Whether the Preſident of the *Engliſh* at *Iaccatra*, or Mr. *Welden* Agent in *Banda*, were not Plotters, or privy to this Buſineſs? Again he anſwered, No. Then the Fiſcal aſked him, By what means the *Iaponers* ſhould have Executed their purpoſe? Whereat, when *Collins* ſtood ſtaggering and deviſing of ſome probable Fiction, the Fiſcal helpt him, and ſaid, Should not two *Iaponers* have gone to each point of the Caſtle, and two to the Governours Chamber door; and when the hurly-burly had been without, and the Governour coming to ſee what was the matter, the *Iaponers* to have killed him? Here one that ſtood by, ſaid to the Fiſcal, Do not tell him what he ſhould ſay, but let him ſpeak of himſelf. Whereupon the Fiſcal, without attending the Anſwer to his former Queſtion, aſked what the *Iaponers* ſhould have had for their Reward. *Collins* Anſwered, *One Thouſand* Ryals apiece. Laſtly, he aſked him, when this Plot ſhould have been effected? whereunto, although he anſwered him nothing (not knowing what to deviſe upon the ſudden) yet he was diſmiſſed, and very glad to come clear of the Torture, though with certain belief that he ſhould dye for this his Confeſſion.

Next was *Samuel Colſon* brought in, being newly arrived from *Hitto*, as is before touched, and was the ſame day brought to the Torture, who, for fear of the pain wherewith he ſaw *Collins* come out, in ſuch a caſe, that his eyes were almoſt blown out of his Head with the Torment of Water; choſe rather to confeſs all they aſked him: and ſo was quickly diſmiſſed, coming out weeping, lamenting, and proteſting his innocency.

Then was *Iohn Clark*, that came with *Colſon* from *Hitto*, fetcht in, and a little after was heard (by the reſt that were without in the Hall) to cry out amain, they Tortured him

with

with Water and with Fire, by the ſpace of two hours. The manner of his Torture (as alſo of *Johnſons* and *Tomſons*) was as followeth: Firſt they hoyſed him up by the hands with a Cord on a large door, where they made him faſt upon two ſtaples of Iron, fixt on both ſides at the top of the door-poſts, haling his hands one from the other, as wide as they could ſtretch. Being thus made faſt, his feet hung ſome two foot from the Ground; which alſo they ſtretcht aſunder as far as they would retch, and ſo made them faſt beneath unto the door-trees on each ſide. Then they bound a cloath about his neck and face ſo cloſe, that little or no Water could go by. That done, they poured the Water ſoftly upon his Head untill the Cloath was full up to the Mouth and Noſtrils, and ſomewhat higher; ſo that he could not draw breath, but he muſt withal ſuck in the water: Which being ſtill continued to be poured in ſoftly, forced all his inward parts, to come out of his Noſe, Ears, and Eyes, and often, as it were ſtifling and choaking him, at length took away his breath, and brought him to a ſwoun or fainting. Then they took him quickly down, and made him vomit up the water. Being a little recovered, they triced him up again, and poured in the water as before, eft-ſoons taking him down as he ſeemed to be ſtifled. In this manner they handled him three or four ſeveral times with water, till his body was ſwoln twice or thrice as big as before, his cheeks like great bladders, and his eyes ſtaring, and ſtrutting out beyond his fore-head: yet all this he bare, without confeſſing any thing; Inſomuch as the Fiſcal and Tormentors reviled him, ſaying, that he was a Devil, and no Man, or ſurely was a Witch, at leaſt had ſome Charme about him, or was Enchanted, that he could bear ſo much. Wherefore they cut off his hair very ſhort, as ſuppoſing he had ſome Witchcraft hidden therein. Afterwards they hoyſed him up again as before, and then burnt him with lighted Candles in the bottom of his feet,

untill

untill the Fat dropt out the Candles; yet then applyed they fresh lights unto him. They burnt him also under the Elbows, and in the palms of the hands; likewise under the arm-pits, untill his inwards might evidently be seen. At last, when they saw he could of himself make no handsome confession, then they led him along with questions of particular circumstances, by themselves framed. Being thus wearied, and overcome by the Torment, he Answered, Yea, to whatsoever they asked: whereby they drew from him a body of a Confession to this Effect; to wit, That Captain *Towerson* had upon New-Years-Day last before, sworn all the *English* at *Amboyna* to be secret and assistant to a Plot that he had projected, with the help of the *Japoners*, to surprise the Castle, and to put the Governour, and the rest of the *Dutch* to death.

Having thus Martyred this poor man, they sent him out by four Blacks: who carried him between them to a Dungeon, where he lay five or six dayes, without any Chyrurgion to dress him, untill (his flesh being putrified) great Maggots dropt and crept from him in a most loathsome and noysome manner. Thus they finished their Sabbath dayes work; and it growing now dark, sent the rest of the *English* (that came that day from *Hitto*, and till then attended in the Hall) first to the Smith's shop, where they were loaden with Irons, and then to the same loathsome Dungeon, where *Clark* and the rest were, accompanied with the poor *Japoners*, lying in the putrefaction of their Tortures.

The next morning being Munday the seventeenth of *February*, old stile, *William Griggs*, and *John Fardo*, with certaine *Japoners*, were brought into the place of Examination.

The *Iaponers* were first cruelly Tortured, to accuse *Griggs*, which at last they did: and *Griggs*, to avoid the like Torture, confessed all that the Fiscal demanded. By and by, the like

also

also was done by *Iohn Fardo*, and other *Iaponers*: but *Fardo* himself endured the Torture of Water, and at last confessed whatsoever the Fiscal asked him; and so was sent back to prison.

The same day also *Iohn Beomont* was brought the second time to the Fiscal's Chamber; where one Captain *Newport*, a *Dutch* Mans Son (born in *England*) was used as an Interpreter. *William Griggs* was also brought in to accuse him; who said, that when the consultation for taking of the Castle, was held, then he (the said *Beomont*) was present. *Beomont* denied it with great earnestness and deep Oaths. At last being triced Up, and drenched with Water till his inwards were ready to crak, he answered affirmatively to all the Fiscals Interrogatories: yet as soon as he was let down, he clearly demonstrated to Captain *Newport*, and *Iohnson* a *Dutch* Merchant, then also present, that these things could not be so. Neverthelesss he was forced to put his hand to his Confession, or else he must to the Torture again, which to avoid, he subscribed; and so had a great Iron bolt, and two shackles riveted to his legs, and then was carried back to prison.

After this, *George Sharrock*, Assistant at *Hitto*, was called in question; who, seeing how grievously others were Martyred, made his earnest prayer to God (as since upon his Oath he hath acknowledged) that he would suffer him to make some such probable lies against himself, as the *Dutch* might believe, and so he might escape the Torment. Being brought to the Rack, the Water provided, and the Candles lighted, he was by the Governour and Fiscal Examined, and charged with the Conspiracy. He fell upon his Knees, and protested his Innocency. Then they commanded him to the Rack, and told him; Unless he would confess, he should be Tormented with Fire and Water to Death, and then should be drawn by the heels to the Gallows, and there hanged up. He still persisting in this his innocency, the Fiscal bad him be hoysed up.

Then he craved respite a while, and told them, that he was at *Hitto*, and not in *Amboyna*, upon New-Years-Day, when the consultation was pretended; neither had been there since *November* before, as was well known to sundry of the *Hollanders* themselves that resided there also with him. Hereupon, they commanded him again to the Rack: but he craving respite as before, now told them, that he had many times heard *John Clark* (who was with him at *Hitto*) say, That the *Dutch* had done them many unsufferable wrongs, and that he would be revenged of them: to which end, he had once broken with Captain *Towerson* of a brave Plot. At which word the Fiscal, and the rest were attentive, encouraging him to proceed. So he went on, saying, that *John Clark* had intreated Captain *Towerson*, that he might go to *Maccasser*, there to Consult and Advise with the *Spaniards* to come with Gallies, and Robb the small Factories of *Amboyna* and *Seran*, when no Ships were there. Here they asked him, what Captain *Towerson* said to this: He answered, that Captain *Towerson* was very much offended with *Clark* for the motion; and from thenceforth could never abide him. Hereupon the Fiscal called him Rogue, and said he prated all from the matter, and should go to the Torture. He craved favour again, and began another Tale; to wit, that upon Twelf-Day then last past, *John Clark* told him at *Hitto*, that there was a practise to take the Castle of *Amboyna*; and asked him, whether he would consent thereunto. Whereupon he demanded of *Clark*, whether Captain *Towerson* knew of any such matter. Which, *Clark* affirming, then he (the said *Sharrock*) said, that he would do as the rest did. Then the Fiscal asked him, what time the Consultation was held? He Answered, In *November* last. The Fiscal said, That could not be; for, the Consultation was upon New-Years-Day. The Prisoner said as before in the beginning, that he had not been in *Amboyna* since the first of *December*, till now that he was brought thither. Why

then,

then, quoth the Fiſcal, have you belied your ſelf? Whereto the Priſoner reſolutely Anſwered, that all that he had ſpoken, touching any Treaſon, was falſe and feigned, onely to avoid Torment. Then went the Fiſcal out into another room to the Governour, and anon returned, and ſent *Sharrock* unto the Priſon again. The next day he was called again, and a writing preſented him, wherein was framed a formal Confeſſion of his laſt conference with *Clark* at *Hitto*, touching the Plot, to take the Caſtle of *Amboyna*: which being read over to him, the Fiſcal aſked him, whether it were true, or no. He Anſwered, No; Why then, ſaid the Fiſcal, did you confeſs it? He Anſwered, For fear of Torment. The Fiſcal and the reſt in a great rage told him he lied; his mouth had ſpoken it, and it was true, and therefore he ſhould ſubſcribe it. Which as ſoon as he had done, he fell preſently into a great paſſion, charging them bitterly to be guilty of the innocent blood of himſelf and the reſt, which they ſhould look to Anſwer for at the day of Judgement: withall he grappled with the Fiſcal, and would have ſtopped him from carrying in the Confeſſion to the Governour, with whom he alſo craved to ſpeak; but was inſtantly laid hold on, and carried away to Priſon.

William Webber, being next Examined, was told by the Fiſcal, that *John Clark* had confeſſed him to have been at *Amboyna* on New-Years-Day, and ſworn to Captain *Towerſon*'s Plot, *&c.* All which he denied, alledging, he was that day at *Larica*: yet being brought to the Torture, he then confeſſed he had been at the conſultation at *Amboyna* upon New-Years-Day, with all the reſt of the circumſtances in order as he was aſked. He alſo further told them, he had received a Letter from *John Clark*; after which was a Poſt-ſcript, excuſing his brief writing at that time, for that there was great buſineſs in hand. But one *Renien* a *Dutch* Merchant, then ſtanding by, told the Governour, that upon New-Years-Day, the

time of this pretended Conſultation, *Webber* and he were merry at *Larica*. So the Governour left him, and went out. But the Fiſcal held on upon the other point, touching the Poſtſcript of *Clark's* Letter, urging him to ſhew the ſame. Which when he could not do, though often terrified with the Torture, he gave him reſpite; promiſing to ſave his life, if he would produce that Letter.

er- Then was Captain *Towerſon* brought to the Examination, ed. and ſhewed what others had Confeſſed of him. He deeply proteſting his Innocency, *Samuel Colſon* was brought to confront him: who being told, that unleſs he would now make good his former Confeſsion againſt Captain *Towerſon*, he ſhould to the Torture, coldly re-affirmed the ſame, and ſo was ſent away. They alſo brought *William Griggs*, and *John Fardo*, to Juſtifie their former Confeſsions to his face. Captain *Towerſon* ſeriouſly charged them, that as they would Anſwer it at the dreadfull Day of Judgement, they ſhould ſpeak nothing but the Truth. Both of them inſtantly fell down upon their knees before him; praying him for Gods ſake to forgive them, and ſaying further openly before them all, that whatſoever they had formerly confeſſed, was moſt falſe, and and ſpoken onely to avoid Torment. With that the Fiſcal, and the reſt offered them again to the Torture; which they would not endure, but then affirmed their former Confeſsions to be true.

When *Colſon* (who had Accuſed Captain *Towerſon* before) was required to ſet his hand to his Confeſsion, he asked the Fiſcal, upon whoſe head he thought the ſin would lie; whether upon his that was conſtrained to confeſs what was falſe, or upon the conſtrainers. The Fiſcal, after a little pauſe upon this queſtion, went into the Governour then in another room, but anon returning, told *Colſon* he muſt ſubſcribe it: which he did; yet withall made this proteſtation: Well, quoth he, you make me to Accuſe my ſelf, and others of that which is as

falſe

falſe, as God is true : for, God is my witneſs, I am as Innocent as the Child new born.

Thus have they Examined all that belong to the *Engliſh* Company in the ſeveral Factories of the Iſland of *Amboyna*.

The one and twentieth of *February*, they Examined *John Wetheral*, Factor at *Cambello* in the Iſland of *Seran*. He confeſſed, he was at *Amboyna* upon New-Years-Day : but for the Conſultation, whereof he was demanded, he knew of no other but touching certain cloath of the *Engliſh* Company, that lay in the Factories rotting and worm-eaten, which they adviſed together how to put off to the beſt avail of their Imployers. The Governour ſaid, they queſtioned him not about Cloath, but of Treaſon : whereof, when he had proteſted his Innocency, he was for that time diſmiſsed. But the next day he was ſent for again, and Captain *Towerſon* brought to Confront and Accuſe him, having before (it ſeems) confeſſed ſomewhat againſt him. But Maſter *Towerſon* ſpake now theſe words onely : Oh, Maſter *Wetheral*, Maſter *Wetheral*, ſpeak the truth, and no more but the truth, as God ſhall put into your heart. So Captain *Towerſon* was put out again, and *Wetheral* brought to the Torture of Water with great threats ; if Water would not make him confeſs, Fire ſhould. He prayed them to tell him what he ſhould ſay, or to write down what they would, he would ſubſcribe it. They ſaid, he needed no Tutor ; they would make him confeſs of himſelf. But when they had triced him Up four ſeveral times, and ſaw he knew not what to ſay, then they read him other Mens Confeſsions, and aſked him from point to point, as they had done others ; and he ſtill Anſwered, Yea, to all. *Jo[hn] Ex[amined]*

Next was called in *John Powl*, *Wetherals* Aſſiſtant at *Cambello* : but he, proving that he was not at *Amboyna* ſince *November* (ſave now when he was brought thither Priſoner) and being ſpoken for by one *John Jooſt*, who had long been well acquainted with him, was diſmiſſed without Torture. *John Exa[mined]*

Then

Then was *Thomas Ladbrook*, servant to *Witheral*, and *Powl* at *Cambello*, brought to be Examined: but proving that he was at *Cambello* at the time of the pretended Consultation, and serving in such quality, as that he was never acquainted with any of the Letters from the Agent of *Amboyna*, he was easily and quickly dismissed.

Ephraim Ramsey was also Examined upon the whole pretended Conspiracy, and particularly questioned concerning Captain *Welden* the *English* Agent in *Banda*, but denying all, and proving that he was not at *Amboyna* at New-Years-Tide, being also spoken for by *John Ioost*; was dismissed, after he had hanged in the Rack a good while, with Irons upon his legs, and the cloath about his mouth.

Lastly, *John Sadler* Servant to *William Griggs* at *Larica*, was Examined; and being found to have been absent from *Amboyna* at New-Years-Tide, when *Griggs* and Others were there, was dismissed.

Thus have we all their Examinations, Tortures, and Confessions, being the work of eight dayes; from the fifteenth to the twenty third of *February*. After which, was two dayes respite before the Sentence. *John Powl*, being himself acquitted as before said, went to the Prison to visit *John Fardo*, one of those that had Accused Captain *Towerson*. To him *Fardo* Religiously protested his Innocency; but especially his sorrow for Accusing Master *Towerson*: for, said he, the fear of Death doth nothing dismay me; for, God (I trust) will be mercifull to my Soul, according to the Innocency of my Cause. The onely matter that troubleth me, is, that through fear of Torment I have Accused that Honest and Godly Man, Captain *Towerson*, who (I think in my conscience) was so Upright and Honest towards all men, that he harboured no ill will to any, much less would attempt any such business as he is Accused of. He further said, he would before his Death receive the Sacrament, in acknowledgement that he had Accused Captain

Towerson

Towerson falsly and wrongfully, onely through fear of Torment.

The five and twentieth of *February*, old stile, all the Prisoners, as well the *English*, as the *Portugal* and the *Iaponers*, were brought into the great Hall of the Castle, and there were solemnly Condemned, except *Iohn Powl*, *Ephraim Ramsey*, *Iohn Sadler*, and *Thomas Ladbrook*, formerly acquitted, as aforesaid.

Captain *Towerson* having been (during all his Imprisonment) kept a part from the rest, so that none of them could come to speak with him; writ much in his Chamber (as some of the *Dutch* report,) but all was suppressed, save only a Bill of debt, which one *Thomas Iohnson*, a free Burgher got of him by favour of his Keepers for acknowledgement, that the *English* Company owed him a certain summ of money. In the end of this Bill he writ these words: *Firmed by the Firm of me* Gabriel Towerson, *now appointed to dye, guiltless of any thing that can be justly laid to my Charge. God forgive them their Guilt, and receive me to his Mercy: Amen.* This Bill being brought to Master *Welden* the *English* Agent at *Banda*, he paid the money, and received in the acknowledgement.

William Griggs (who had before Accused Captain *Towerson*) writ these words following in his Table-Book: *We, whose names are here specified;* John Feomont, *Merchant of* Loho, William Griggs *Merchant of* Larica, Abel Price, *Chyrurgion of* Amboyna, Robert Brown, *Taylor, which do here lye Prisoners in the Ship* Rotterdam, *being apprehended for Conspiracy, for blowing up the Castle of* Amboyna: *We being judged to Death this fifth of* March, Anno 1622. *which we through Torment were constrained to speak, that which he never meant, nor once imagined; the which we take upon our Deaths and Salvation: they Tortured us with that extreame Torment of Fire and Water, that Flesh and Blood could not endure: and this we take upon our Deaths, that they have put us to Death guiltless of our Accusation. So therefore we desire, that they that shall understand this; that our Imployers may understand these Wrongs, and*

 that

that your selves would have a care to look to your selves : for their intent was to have brought you in also ; they askt concerning you ; which if they had Tortured us, we must have confessed you also : And so farewell ; Written in the dark.

This Table-Book was afterwards delivered to Master *Welden* afore-named, by one that served the *Dutch.*

Samuel Colson also, another that Accused Captain *Towerson*, writ as followeth in the wast leaves of a Book, wherein were bound together the Common-Prayers, the Psalms, and the Catechism.

In one Page Thus ;

March 5. *Stilo novo*, being Sunday, aboard the *Rotterdam*, lying in Irons.

UNderstand that I Samuel Colson, *late Factor of* Hitto, *was apprehended for suspition of Conspiracy ; and for any thing I know, must die for it : wherefore, having no better means to make my Innocency known, have writ this in this Book, hoping some good* English *Men will see it. I do here upon my Salvation, as I hope by His Death and Passion to have Redemption for my sins, that I am clear of all such Conspiracy ; neither do I know any* English *Man guilty thereof ; nor other Creature in the World. As this is true : God bless me.*

Sam. Colson.

On the other side, upon the first Page of the Catechism, is thus Written.

I*N another leaf you shall understand more, which I have written in this Book.*

Sam. Colson.

In the beginning of the Psalms, and in the leaf so referred unto, is thus written, (*viz.*)

T*He* Japons *were taken with some Villany, and brought to Examination : being most Tyrannously Tortured, were asked if the* English

English *had any hand in their Plot. Which Torture made them ſay, yea. Then was Maſter* Tomſon, *Maſter* Johnſon, *Maſter* Collins, John Clark *brought to Examination, and were burned under the Arms, Arm-Pits, the Hands, and Soals of the Feet, with another moſt miſerable Torment, to drink Water; ſome of them almoſt Tortured to Death, and was forced to confeſs that which they never knew, by reaſon of the Torment, which Fleſh and Blood is not able to endure. Then were the reſt of the* Engliſh *Men called one by one (amongſt which I was one) being wiſhed to confeſs, or elſe muſt go to Torment; withall cauſed Maſter* Johnſon, *who was before Tormented, to witneſs againſt me, or elſe he ſhould be Tormented again; which rather than he would endure, he ſaid, What they would have, he would ſpeak. Then muſt I confeſs that I never knew, or elſe to go to Torment, which rather than I would ſuffer, I did confeſs that, which (as I ſhall be ſaved before God Almighty) is not True, being forced for fear of Torment. Then did they make us witneſs againſt Captain* Towerſon, *and at laſt made Captain* Towerſon *confeſs all, being for fear of moſt Cruel Torment: for which we muſt all dye. As I mean and hope to have pardon for my ſins, I know no more than the Child unborn of this Buſineſs. Written with my own hand the firſt of March,* Stilo novo.

Samuel Colſon.

Yet in another page were theſe words:

I *Was born in* New-Caſtle *upon* Tyne, *where I deſire this Book may come, that my Friends may know of my Innocency.*

Sam. Colſon.

This Book he delivered to one that ſerved the *Hollanders*, who ſowed it up in his Bed, and afterward, at his opportunity delivered it to Maſter *Welden* before named.

All theſe ſaid writings are yet extant under the hands of the ſeveral parties, well known to their Friends here in *England.*

The ſix and twentieth of *February*, *Stilo veteri*, the Priſoners were all brought into the great Hall of the Caſtle (except Cap-

tain *Towerson* and *Emanuel Tomson*) to be prepard for death by the Ministers. The *Japoners* now all in general, as some of them had done before in particular, cryed out unto the *English*, saying; *Oh you* English *Men, where did we ever in our lives eat with you, talk with you, or (to our remembrance) see you?* The *English* Answered, *Why then have you Accused us?* The poor men, perceiving they were made believe each had Accused others, before they had so done indeed; shewed them their Tortured bodies, and said, *If a stone were thus burnt, would it not change his Nature? How much more we that are Flesh and Blood?*

Whil'st they were all in the Hall, Captain *Towerson* was brought up into the place of Examination, and two great Jarrs of water carried after him. What he there did or suffered was unknown to the *English* without: but it seemeth they made him then to under-write his Confession. After Supper, *John Powl, Ephraim Ramsey, Thomas Ladbrook*, and *John Sadler*, who were found not guilty, as aforesaid, were taken from the rest, and put into another room. By and by also were *Samuel Colson* and *Edward Collins* brought from the rest, into the room where *Emanuel Tomson* lay: The Fiscal told them, it was the Governours mercy, to save one of them three: and it being indifferent to him, which of them were the man, it was his pleasure, they should draw Lots for it, which they did, and the free Lot fell to *Edward Collins*; who then was carried away to the Chamber, where *John Powl*, and the rest that were quit, lodged, and *Samuel Colson* back into the Hall. Anon also *Iohn Beomont* was brought out of the Hall into the Chamber, where *Iohn Powl*, and the rest of the acquitted persons were, and was told, that he was beholden to *Peter Iohnson* the *Dutch* Merchant of *Loho*, and to the Secretary; for they two had begged his life.

So then there remained in the Hall Ten of the *English*; for Captain *Towerson*, and *Emanuel Tomson* (as is said before) were kept in several rooms apart from the rest. To these that remained in the Hall, came the *Dutch* Ministers, who telling them

them how ſhort a time they had to live, admoniſhed and exhorted them to make their true Confeſſions; for it was a dangerous and deſperate thing, to diſſemble at ſuch a time. The *Engliſh* ſtill profeſſed their Innocency, and prayed the Miniſters that they might all receive the Sacrament, as a ſeal of the forgiveneſs of their ſins; and withall, thereby to confirm their laſt Profeſsion of their Innocency. But this would by no means be granted. Whereupon *Samuel Colſon* ſaid thus unto the Miniſters; You manifeſt unto us the danger of Diſsimulation in this caſe: But tell us, if we ſuffer guiltleſs, being otherwiſe alſo true believers in Chriſt Jeſus, What ſhall be our reward? The Preacher Anſwered, By how much the clearer you are, ſo much the more Glorious ſhall be your Reſurrection. With that word, *Colſon* ſtarted up, imbraced the Preacher, and gave him his purſe, with ſuch money as he had in it, ſaying; *Domine*, God bleſs you: tell the Governour, I freely forgive him; and I intreat you, to exhort him to repent him of his bloody Tragedy, wrought upon us poor Innocent Souls. Here all the reſt of the *Engliſh*, ſignified their conſent to this Speech. Then ſpake *John Fardo* to the reſt, in preſence of the Miniſters, as followeth: My Countrey-Men, and Brethren, all that are here with me Condemned to Dye, I charge you all, as you will Anſwer it at Gods Judgement Seat, If any of you be guilty of this Matter, whereof we are Condemned, diſcharge your Conſciences, and confeſs the Truth for ſatisfaction of the World. Hereupon *Samuel Colſon* ſpake with a loud voice, ſaying, According to my Innocency in this Treaſon, ſo Lord pardon all the reſt of my Sins: and if I be guilty thereof more or leſſe, let me never be partaker of thy Heavenly Joyes. At which words every one of the reſt cryed out, Amen for me, Amen for me, good Lord. This done, each of them knowing whom he had Accuſed, went one to another begging forgiveneſs for their falſe Accuſation, being wrung from them by the pains or fear of Torture. And they all freely forgave one another:

 for

for none had been so falſly Accuſed, but he himſelf had Accuſed another as falſly. In particular, *George Sharrock* (who ſurvived to relate this nights paſſage) kneeled down to *John Clark*, whom he had Accuſed of the Tale at *Hitto* above-mentioned, and craved forgiveneſs at his hands. *Clark* freely forgave him, ſaying; How ſhould I look to be forgiven of God, if I ſhould not forgive you, having my ſelf ſo falſly Accuſed Captain *Towerſon*, and others?

After this, they ſpent the reſt of the dolefull night in Prayer, ſinging of Pſalms, and comforting one another; though the *Dutch* that Guarded them, offered them Wine, bidding them drink *Luſtick*, and drive away the ſorrow; according to the cuſtome of their own Nation in the like caſe, but contrary to the nature of the *Engliſh*.

Upon the morrow morning, being the Execution day, the 27. of *February*, *Stilo veteri*, *John Powl* being freed (as is above recited) came into the room where the Condemned perſons were, and found them at Prayer. They all requeſted him to relate unto their Friends in *England*, the Innocency of their Cauſe; taking it upon their deaths, that what they had confeſſed againſt themſelves and others touching this Crime, was all falſe, and forced by fear of Torture.

The ſame morning *William Webber* was called again into the Fiſcals room, and there preſſed to produce the Letter, which he had before confeſſed to have received from *John Clark*, in the *Poſt-ſcript* whereof ſome great buſineſs was intimated. They promiſed him his Life, if he would deliver or produce them that Letter: which although he did not, nor indeed could, yet at laſt they pardoned him, and ſent him to the reſt that were ſaved, and *Sharrock* with him.

That morning *Emanuel Tomſon* underſtanding that *John Beomont* was pardoned, made means to have him come and ſpeak with him; which, with much ado, he obtained. *Beomont* found him ſitting in a Chamber, all alone in a moſt miſerable faſhion;

on; the wounds of his Torture bound up, but the matter and gore-blood iſſuing through the Roulers. He took Maſter *Beomont* by the hand, and prayed him, when he came into *England*, to do his Duty to the Honourable Company, his Maſters, to Maſter *Robinſon*, and to his Brother *Billingſley*, and to certifie them of his Innocency, which (ſaid he) you your ſelf know well enough.

All things being prepared for the Execution, the Condemned were brought forth of the Hall along by the Chamber where the quit and pardoned were; who ſtood in the door, to give and take the farewell of their Country-Men now going to Execution. Staying a little for this purpoſe, they prayed, and charged thoſe, that were ſaved, to bear witneſs to their Friends in *England* of their Innocency, and that they died not Traytors, but ſo many Innocents, meerly Murthered by the *Hollanders*, whom they prayed God to forgive their blood-thirſtineſs, and to have mercy upon their own Souls.

Being brought into the Yard, their Sentence was there read unto them from a Gallery, and then they were thence carried unto the place of Execution, together with nine *Iapons*, and a *Portugal*: not the ordinary and ſhort way, but round about in a long proceſsion, through the Town; the way guarded with five Companies of Souldiers, *Dutch* and *Amboyners*, and thronged with the Natives of the Iſland, that (upon the ſummons given the day before by the ſound of the Drum) flocked together to behold this Triumph of the *Dutch* over the *Engliſh*. *Samuel Colſon* had conceived a Prayer in writing, in the end whereof he proteſted his Innocency: which Prayer he read to his Fellows the night before, and now alſo at the place of Execution devoutly pronounced the ſame; then threw away the paper, which the Governour cauſed to be brought to him, and kept it.

Emanuel Tomſon told the reſt, he did not doubt but GOD would ſhew ſome ſign of their Innocency; and every one of

the reſt took it ſeverally upon their Death, that they were utterly guiltleſs; and ſo one by one with great chearfulneſs ſuffered the fatal ſtroke.

The *Portugal* prayed over his Beads very devoutly, and often kiſſed the Croſs; ſwearing thereupon, that he was utterly Innocent of this Treaſon: yet confeſſed, that God had juſtly brought this puniſhment upon him, for that having a Wife in in his own Country, he had, by the perſwaſion of the *Dutch* Governour, taken another in that Country, his firſt being yet living.

The *Japons* likewiſe (according to their Religion) ſhut up their laſt Act with the like profeſsion of their Innocency. So there ſuffered Ten *Engliſh* Men, (*viz.*) Captain *Gabriel Towerſon* the Agent of the *Engliſh* at *Amboyna*, *Samuel Colſon* Factor at *Hitto*, *Emanuel Tomſon* Aſsiſtant at *Amboyna*, *Timothy Johnſon* Aſſiſtant there alſo, *John Weatheral* Factor at *Cambello*, *John Clark* Aſsiſtant at *Hitto*, *William Griggs* Factor at *Larica*, *John Fardo* Steward of the Houſe, *Abel Price* Chyrurgian, and *Robert Brown* Tailor.

The *Portugal* alſo ſuffered with them. His name was *Auguſtin Perez*. He was born at *Bengala*.

The names of the *Japoneſes* that ſuffered (if any be curious to know them) were as followeth:

Hititſo, *Tſioſa*, *Sinſa*. } All born at *Firando*.

Sidney Migiel, *Pedro Congie*, *Thome Corea*, } Born at *Naganſacque*.

Quiandayo, Native of *Coraets*.
Tſabinda, Of *Tſoncketgo*.
Zanchoe. Of *Fiſien*.

Beſides theſe, there were two other *Japoneſes*; the one named *Soyſimo*, born at *Firando*; and the other *Sacoube*, of the ſame place: the former of which being Tortured, confeſſed both to have been privy to this pretended Treaſon, and to have offered

his

his service unto the *English* to aid them in taking of the Castle: and the latter confessed to have had knowledge of the consultation of the other *Japons* to this purpose. But neither of them was Executed, nor so much as Condemned. The reason whereof was not known to the *English* that were saved.

They had prepared a cloath of black Velvet, for Captain *Towerson's* body to fall upon; which being stained and defaced with his blood, they afterwards put to the account of the *English* Company.

At the instant of the Execution, there arose a great darkness, with a sudden and violent gust of Wind and Tempest; whereby two of the *Dutch* ships, riding in the Harbour, were driven from their Anchors, and with great labour and difficulty saved from the Rocks. Within a few dayes after, one *William Dunckin*, who had told the Governour, That *Robert Brown*, the *English* Tailor, had a few Months before told him, he hoped that within six Months the *English* should have as much to do in the Castle of *Amboyna*, as the *Dutch*: This Fellow, coming upon an Evening to the Grave where the *English* were buried, being all (save Captain *Towerson*) in one Pit, fell down upon the Grave; and having lien there a while, rose up again stark mad, and so continued two or three dayes together, and then died. Forthwith also fell a new sickness at *Amboyna*, which swept away about a thousand people *Dutch* and *Amboyners*: in the space wherein, there usually died not above thirty at other seasons. These signs were by the surviving *English* referred to the confident prediction of *Emanuel Tomson* above-named, and were by the *Amboyners* interpreted as a token of the wrath of God for this Barbarous Tyranny of the *Hollanders*.

The next day after the Execution, being the 28. of *February*, *Stilo veteri*, was spent in Triumph for the new General of the *Dutch* then Proclaimed, and in publick rejoycing for the deliverance from this pretended Treason. The day following, being the first of *March*, *John Beomont*, *George Sharrock*, *Edward*

Collins, and *William Webber*, were brought to the Governour; who told *Webber*, *Beomont* and *Sharrock*, that they were pardoned in Honour of the new General; and *Collins*, that he was to go to *Jaccatra*, there to ſtand to the favour of the General. So the Governour made them drink Wine with him, and curteouſly diſmiſſed them; willing them to go and conſult with the reſt that were ſaved, who were fit to be placed in the ſeveral Factories. Which done, and their opinions reported to the Governour, he accordingly commanded each to his place; adding, that he would thenceforth take upon him the Patronage and Government of the *Engliſh* Companies buſineſs. To which purpoſe, he had within a few dayes paſt opened a Letter that came from the *Engliſh* Preſident at *Jaccatra*, directed to Captain *Towerſon*; being (as he ſaid) the firſt *Engliſh* Letter that ever he intercepted; further, ſaying, that he was glad that he found by that Letter, that the *Engliſh* at *Iaccatra* were inncent touching this buſineſs.

The Governour and Fiſcal having thus made an end at *Amboyna*, diſpatched themſelves for *Banda*; where they made very diligent enquiry againſt Captain *Welden*, the *Engliſh* Agent there; yet found no colour nor ſhaddow of guilt to lay hold on: but at laſt entertained him with courteous ſpeeches, profeſſing to be very glad, that they found him, as well as the *Engliſh* at *Iaccatra*, to be without ſuſpition of this Treaſon (as they term it.) Captain *Welden*, perceiving the diſorder and confuſion of the *Engliſh* Companies Affairs at *Amboyna*, by means of this dealing of the *Dutch*; forthwith hired a *Dutch* Pinnace at *Banda*, and paſſed to *Amboyna*: where, inſtantly upon his Arrival, he re-called the Companies Servants, ſent (as before) by the *Dutch* Governour to the upper-Factories.

Having enquired of them, and the reſt that were left at *Amboyna*, of the whole proceedings lately paſſed, he found, by the conſtant and agreeing Relation of them all, that there was no ſuch Treaſon of the *Engliſh* as was pretended: as alſo under-

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ſtanding what ſtrict command the Governour had given to the ſurviving *Engliſh*, not once to talk or confer with the Country people concerning this bloody buſineſs, although the ſaid Country people every day reproached them with Treaſon, and a Bloody Intention to have Maſſacred the Natives, and to have ripped up the bellies of Women with child, and ſuch like ſtuff; wherewith the *Dutch* have poſſeſſed the poor Vulgar, to make the *Engliſh* odious unto them. The ſaid Maſter *Welden* therefore finding it to ſort neither with the Honour nor Profit of the *Engliſh* Company, his Maſters, to hold any longer reſidence in *Amboyna*, he took the poor Remnant of the *Engliſh* along with him, in the ſaid hired *Pinnace* for *Iaccatra*; whither the Governour had ſent *Iohn Beomont*, and *Edward Collins* before, as Men Condemned, and left to the Mercy of the General.

When this heavy News of *Amboyna* came to *Iaccatra*, and the *Engliſh* there, the Preſident forthwith ſent to the General of the *Dutch*, to know by what Authority the Governour of *Amboyna* had thus proceeded againſt the *Engliſh*, and how he and the reſt of the *Dutch* there at *Iaccatra*, did approve theſe proceedings. The Governour returned for Anſwer, that, The Governour of *Amboyna*'s Authority was derived from that of the Lords States General of the United *Neatherlands*; under whom he had Lawfull Juriſdiction both in Criminal and Civil Cauſes, within the deſtrict of *Amboyna*; further, that ſuch proceeding was neceſſary againſt Traytors, ſuch as the *Engliſh* Executed at *Amboyna*, might appear to be by their own Confeſſions: a Copy whereof he therewith ſent to the *Engliſh* Preſident; who ſent the ſame back to be Authentickly certified, but received it not again.

Hitherto hath been recited the bare and naked Narration of the progreſs and paſſage of this Action, as it is taken out of the Depoſitions of Six ſeveral *Engliſh* Factors; whereof Four were Condemned, and the other two Acquitted in this Proceſs of

Amboyna:

Amboyna: All, ſince their return into *England*, Examined upon their Oaths in the Admiralty Court. The particular of Captain *Towerſon*'s, as alſo of *Emanuel Tomſon*'s Examinations, and Anſwers, are not yet come to light, by reaſon that theſe two were kept apart from all the reſt, and each alone by himſelf; nor any other of the *Engliſh* Suffered to come to ſpeak with them, except only that ſhort Farewell, which *John Beomont* took of *Tomſon* the morning before the Execution before mentioned. The like obſcurity is yet touching the Examinations, and Anſwers of diverſe of the reſt that are Executed; being, during their Impriſonment, ſo ſtrictly lookt to, and watched by the *Dutch*, that they might not talk together, nor mutually relate their miſeries.

But becauſe the *Hollanders* defend their own Proceedings by the confeſſions of the parties Executed, acknowledging ſeverally under their hands, that they were guilty of the pretended Crime; it will not be amiſs to recollect and recall unto this place, as it were unto one ſum and total, certain circumſtances diſperſed in ſeveral parts of this Narration; whereby, as well the Innocency of the *Engliſh*, as the unlawful proceedings againſt them, may be manifeſted.

Firſt therefore it is to be remembred, that the *Japons* were Apprehended, Examined, and Tortured three or four dayes, before the *Engliſh* were Attached; and the Fame as well of their apprehenſion, as Torture, was rife and notorious in the Town of *Amboyna*, and the parts adjoyning. *Tomſon*, in this *interim*, and the very firſt day of the Examination of the *Japon*, went to the Caſtle to aſk leave of the Governour to land ſome Rice, and brought back the news with him to the *Engliſh* houſe of the cruel handling of theſe poor *Japons*. This had been *Item* enough to the *Engliſh*, if they had been guilty, to ſhift for themſelves: whereto alſo they had ready means by the Curricurries, or ſmall Boats of the *Amboyners*, which lie along the Strand in great number, wherewith they might eaſily have tranſ-

transported themselves to *Seran*, to *Bottoom*, or to *Maccassar*, out of the Reach and Jurisdiction of the *Dutch* : but in that they fled not in this case, it is a very strong presumption, that they were as little privy to any Treason of their own, as suspicious of any Treacherous train laid for their bloods.

In the next place let it be considered, how impossible it was for the *English* to atchieve this pretended enterprise.

The Castle of *Amboyna* is of a very great strength (as is before declared ;) the Garrison therein two or three hundred men, besides as many more of their free Burgers in the Town. What their care and circumspection in all their Forts is, may appear, not only by the quick Alarm they now took at the foolish question of the poor *Iapon*, made to the Sentinel above recited ; but also by that which a little before happened at *Iaccatra*, where one of their Souldiers was shot to death for sleeping in the watch.

Durst Ten *English* Men (whereof not one a Souldier) attempt any thing upon such a strength and vigilancy ? As for the assistance of the *Iapons*, they were but ten neither, and all un-armed as well as the *English* : For, as at the seizure of the *English* house, all the provision therein found was but three Swords, two Musquets, and half a pound of Powder : so the *Iapons* (except when they are in service of the Castle, and there armed by the *Dutch*) are allowed to have no Arms, but only a *Catan*, a kind of short Sword : and it is forbidden to all the *Dutch*, upon great penalty, to sell any hand-Gun, Powder, or Bullets to the *Iapons* or *Amboyners*. But let it be imagined, that these Twenty persons, *English* and *Iapons*, were so desparate as to adventure the Exploit ; How should they be able to Master the *Dutch* in the Castle, or to keep possession when they had gotten it ? What second had they ? There was neither Ship nor Pinnace of the *English* in the Harbour. All the rest of the *Iapons* in the Island, were not Twenty persons; and not one *English* more. The nearest of the rest of the *English*

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were at *Banda*, forty leagues from *Amboyna*; and those but nine persons, all afterwards cleared by the Governour and Fiscal themselves from all suspition of this pretended Crime, as were also the rest of the *English* at *Iaccatra*.

On the other side, besides the strength of the Castle and Town of *Amboyna*, the *Hollanders* have three other strong Castles, well furnished with Souldiers in the same Island, and at *Cambello* near adjoyning. They had then also in the road of *Amboyna* eight Ships and Vessels, namely, the *Rotterdam* of 1200 Tun, the *Unicorn* of 300 Tun, the Free-mans Vessel of 100 Tun, the *Calck* of 60 Tun, Captain *Gamals Iunck* of 40 Tun, the *Flute* of 300 Tun, the *Amsterdam* of 1400 Tun, and a small Pinnace of about 60 Tun; and all these well furnished with Men and Ammunition. It is true, that the Stories do record sundry valiant and hardy enterprises of the *English* Nation, and *Holland* is witness of some of them; yea, hath reaped the fruit of the *English* resolution; yet no Story, no Legend scarcely reporteth any such hardines, either of the *English* or others, That so few persons, so naked of all provisions and supplies, should undertake such an adventure upon a counterparty, so well and abundantly fitted at all points.

But let it be further granted, that they might possibly have overcome all these dfficulties; yet to what end and purpose should they put themselves into such a Jeopardy? They knew well enough, that it was agreed between both Companies at home, That the Forts in the *Indies* should remain respectively in the hands of such, as had possession of them at the date of the Treaty, *Anno* 1619. and that the same was ratified by the Kings Majesty, and the Lords States General. They knew likewise, and all the World takes knowledge of His Majesties Religious observation of Peace and Treaty with all his Neighbours, yea, with all the World: what reward then could these *English* hope for, of this their Valour and Danger? Certainly none other than that which is expresly provided by the Treaty

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it self, that is, To be punished as the disturbers of the Common Peace, and Amity of both Nations.

But let these *English* Men have been as foolish in this Plot as the *Hollanders* will have them; is it also to be imagined, that they were so graceless, as when they were condemned, and seriously admonished by the Ministers to discharge their consciences, yet then to persist in their dissimulation, being otherwise of such godly behaviour, as to spend the time in Prayer, singing of Psalms, and spiritual comforting one another, which the *Dutch* would have had them bestow in drinking, to drive away their sorrow? Let *Colsons* question to the Minister be considered: his and the rest offer and desire to receive the Sacrament, in sign and token of their Innocency; their mutual asking forgiveness for their like false Accusations of one another, forced by the Torture; *Tomsons* last farewell to *Beomont*; *Colsons* Prayer, and his writing in his Prayer-book; *Fardo*'s farewell to *Powl*; also his conjuring exhortation to his Fellows, to discharge their consciences, and all their Answers thereunto; craving Gods Mercy or Judgement, according to their Innocency in this Cause; their General and Religious profession of their Innocency, to their Country-men, at their last parting with them, and finally, the sealing of this profession with their last breath and blood, even in the very Article of Death, and in the stroke of the Executioner. What horrible, and unexampled dissimulation were this? If some one, or more of them had been so fearfully disparate, yet would not there one amongst ten be found to think of the Judgement to come; whereunto he was then instantly summoned without Essoin, Bail, or Mainprize? What? had they hope of Reprive and Life, if they kept their countenance to the last? Yet what hope had *Tomson* and the rest, when Captain *Towerson*'s head was off? Nay, what desire had *Tomson* and *Clark* to live, being so mangled and martyred by the Torture? They were Executed one by one, and every one several took it upon his death, that he was guiltless.

Now

Now to blanch and ſmooth over all this rough and Barbarous proceeding; it is here given out, that the Governour and Fiſcal found ſuch Evidence of the Plot, and dealt ſo evenly in the proceſs, that they ſpared not their own people; having uſed ſome of their Native *Hollanders*, partakers of this treaſon, in the ſame manner as they did the *Engliſh*. But this, as well by the Relation here truly and faithfully ſet down, grounded upon the ſworn Teſtimony of ſix credible witneſſes, as alſo by other ſufficient reports of diverſe (lately come out of thoſe parts) appeareth to be a meer tale, not once alledged by any in the *Indies* in many moneths after the Execution, but only invented and diſperſed here, for a *Fucus* and a fair colour upon the whole cauſe, and to make the World believe, that the ground of this Barbarous and Tyrannous proceeding was a true Crime, and not the unſatiable covetouſneſs of the *Hollanders*, by this cruel Treachery to gain the ſole Trade of the *Mulloccos*, *Banda*, and *Amboyna*, which is already become the event of this bloody proceſs.

To add hereunto by way of Aggravation, will be needleſs; the Fact is ſo full of Odious and Barbarous Inhumanity, executed by *Hollanders* upon the *Engliſh* Nation, in a place where both lived under Terms of Partnerſhip and great Amity, confirmed by a moſt ſolemn Treaty.

FINIS.